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Appln. No. 10/749,667
Amendment dated February 1, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 17, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, and 33-35, and amend claims 1, 10, and 31 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion, wherein the material is attached to a bottom edge of a periphery of a lower portion of a door of the vehicle, said material being equipped above a seal member which
5 makes a resilient contact with a body panel of the vehicle and carries out a seal between the inside and the outside of the vehicle, said material being made of a foam having a specific gravity of about 0.05-0.4, and said material being able to restrain noise, and wherein said material is formed to make no
10 contact with the body panel while the door is closed.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Original). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 1, wherein said

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material comprises a plurality of protrusions on the surface thereof.

Claim 4 (Original). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 1, wherein said material comprises a hollow part along the longitudinal direction thereof.

Claim 5 (Original). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 4, further comprising at least one of a particulate powder or a fibrous material disposed within the hollow part.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Original). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 3, wherein said material comprises a hollow part along the longitudinal direction thereof.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

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Claim 10 (Currently Amended). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion, wherein the material is attached to a bottom edge of a periphery of a lower portion of a door of the vehicle, said material being equipped above a seal member
5 which makes a resilient contact with a body panel of the vehicle and carries out a seal between the inside and the outside of the vehicle, said material comprising a sound absorption layer made of a foam having a specific gravity of 0.05-0.4, and a noise insulation layer having a specific gravity of 0.4 or more, and
10 said material being able to restrain noise, and wherein said material is formed to make no contact with the body panel while the door is closed.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Original). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 10, wherein said material comprises a plurality of protrusions on the surface thereof.

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Claim 14 (Original). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 13, wherein said material comprises a hollow part along the longitudinal direction thereof.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

Claim 16 (Cancelled).

Claim 17 (Original). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 10, wherein said material comprises a hollow part along the longitudinal direction thereof.

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled).

Claim 21 (Previously Presented). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion, which is attached to a bottom edge of a periphery of a lower portion of a vehicle door,

said material being provided above a seal member which makes
5 a resilient contact with a body panel of the vehicle and which carries out a seal between the inside and the outside of the vehicle, and

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said material comprising a foam having a specific gravity of about 0.05-0.4, and said material restraining penetration of
10 noise into and out of the vehicle,

wherein said material is formed to be spaced from and to make no contact with a body panel of the vehicle when the door is closed,

wherein said material comprises a plurality of protrusions
15 on an outer surface thereof, and

wherein at least some of said plurality of protrusions face said body panel of the vehicle.

Claim 22-25 (Cancelled).

Claim 26 (Previously Presented). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion as claimed in claim 21,

wherein said material is elongated and comprises a hollow part extending along the longitudinal direction thereof.

Claims 27-30 (Cancelled).

Claim 31 (Currently Amended). A sound-absorbing material for a vehicle's lower portion which is attached to a bottom edge of a periphery of a lower portion of a vehicle door, and

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said material being provided above a seal member which makes
5 a resilient contact with a body panel of the vehicle and which
carries out a seal between the inside and the outside of the
vehicle, [[and]]

~~said material comprising a foam having a specific gravity of
about 0.05-0.4, and said material restraining penetration of noise
10 into and out of the vehicle,~~

wherein said material comprises a sound absorption layer
made of [[said]] a foam having a specific gravity of about 0.05-
0.4, and a noise insulation layer having specific gravity of
about 0.4 or more, and said material restraining penetration of
15 noise into and out of the vehicle,

wherein said material is formed to be spaced from and to
make no contact with a body panel of the vehicle when the door is
closed,

wherein said material comprises a plurality of protrusions
20 on an outer surface thereof, and

wherein at least some of said plurality of protrusions face
said body panel of the vehicle.

Claims 32-40 (Cancelled).